A PARALELL BETWEEN THE LATE TROVBLES IN SCOTLAND, AND THE PRESENT TROVBLES IN ENGLAND.

Written by a private Gentleman.

LONDON,
Printed for W. C. 1642.

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A PARALELL BETWEENE THE LATE TROVBLES IN *SCOTLAND*, AND the present troubles in *England*, written by a private Gentleman.

IT hath beene alwayes held a rule, or maxime, among all Nations, and Countries, to make the defence of Religion the chiefe ground or cause of their warres, sometimes for meere politique ends and by respects, sometimes to plant religion where it is not, and sometimes to regulate it where it is; Amongst these three, the last seemes most dangerous, because it seldome happens but vnder the territories of one and the same Prince, and so produceth the miserable effects of Civill Warres.

But to come to my present purpose, wherein I intend briefly and comparatively to discourse of the late troubles that have happened both in *Scotland*, and *England*.

And because my Needle hath not beene touch'd (being the first that hath written upon this subject) if I vary in the Compasse, or meete with a Rocke, I shall expect some favour, although I will not sue for any speciall pardon, as not worthy of it, for he that followes himselfe, followeth the worst Master that is.

The cause of those great troubles in *Scotland*, was the Innovation of Religion, and violation of the ancient Lawes and Statutes of the King-

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dome as sufficiently appeared by their severall petitions and declarations. The chiefe Actors, plotters, and contrivers of those distractions and distempers were the Prelates, Bishops, Popish affected Clergie, and Papists joyning themselves with a malignant party, ill affected to the true Protestant Religion, which had a wicked and malitious intent and purpose to inthrall and bring into bondage and slavish subjection, both the Soules, Persons, and Estates of three Kingdomes at once. And by making use of the great favour, power, and authoritie of the Archbishop of *Canterbury*, the Clergie began to sayle after a *Cynosure*, which was elivated to the thirty six degree, and followed the example of *Thomas Becket* Archbishop of *Canterbury*, in the time of *Hen.* 2. who forswore himselfe (by denying the power of the King) to inlarge the power of the Pope, and to bring the Cannon Law into this Land. In the passage whereof *Hen.* 2. playd *Adrestus* part, and stabbed himselfe.

In *England*, as in *Scotland* our grievances chiefly consist of two kinds, either such as concerne the Innovation of our Religion, or such as concerne our Lawes and Liberties, as hath likewise often beene declared, and set forth by many petitions and declarations.

The fountaine from whence these evils have sprung, and so consequently, our present distractions hath by too much experience beene found to arise from those Incendiaries of mischiefe, the Prelats, Popish Bishops, and Papists.

To stirre up those distempers in *Scotland*, the Prelats joyne with Papists (who are neuer wanting to use there best skill and utmost power to stirre up warres and division betweene kingdomes,) and finding the Archbishop of *Canterburie* the onely Instrument to act the plot, he being the Darling of times (as its said of *Mounford* in the time of *Hen.* 3.) first they labour to advance his greatnesse comperable to that of *Anselme* Archbishop of *Canterbury*, *tempore. Ed.* 1. which tooke on him to be equall with the King, saying in one of his Epistles that the Plough of the holy Church was drawne by two Oxen of equall strength and beauty, the King and himself.

The Archbishop being gotten to this hight, the rest of the Prelats and Clergie, want not Ambition to climbe after him, their Canons and decrees must be of that force and authority, that none dare to dispute on the Lawfulnesse of them like the Cannons of that learned Synod in the Raigne of *Richard* 2. when *Thomas Arundell* was Archbishop of *Canterbury* where they decreed that none should dispute upon the Articles determined in the Church, nor should doubt the authority of those decrees, the offendors to the contrary should be prouounced Heretickes. Such

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were the miseries that began to overtake us, by the potent greatnes of these aspiring spirits, that they will not onely be content with that power which *Anselme* was so puft up with that he boasted of it; to be of equall authority, with the King, in the Church-government, but they will be above him, the King must commit the whole sway of all Ecclesiasticall government into their hands; nay that will not serve their turnes (which was to much) but they incroach into temporall jurisdiction also. But as *Swydas* saith, for Priests to be temperall Iudges is to knit that which will never be twisted, and for a divine to medle in seculer affaires, is as if a bird in the Ayre should with the Mould-warpworke in the earth.

To season this lumpe of matter, every Kingdome hath many distinct and particuler Lawes and Customes, after a settled gouernment, not before, as a batch of bread consists of many distinct loafes, after the distinction which before is conteined vndistinguished under one Lump. A man consists of many distinct members, which at the first conception was not distinct.

In *Scotland*, and likewise in *England* before the settling of a Civill government, their Lawes were not distinct, both participating of that generall Law of humaine policy, or rather barberous customes were onely gained by the dime light or knowledge of heathenish understanding; since the dividing of these two Isles into Kingdomes, their Lawes have beene distinct which were not so before.

But least by treating of the Lawes of these two Kingdomes, I should wade too deepe, and drowne my selfe in a streame I never came at, I will returne againe to my present purpose, and give a short view of the miserable effects that have ensued by the Counsels and endeavours of these croaking frogs, or rather Spiders of the Common wealth, that by continuall issuing forth their deadly poison, have crackt the *Venus* glasse of peace and tranquillity.

When *Scotland* first perceived their Religion betrayed, their Lawes violated, and their Liberties inthralled, and that these Incendiaries (like those favorites to *Hen.* 3. which were afterwards banished for it,) had insinuated so farre with his Majesty, that their Soveraignes eare was stopped from hearing their just complaints, they openly declared their grievances to the world, and desired Iustice against the infringers of their Peace.

Now their enemies malice against them is more enraged, they perceive their wicked ends were not onely like to bee frustrate, but their lives and fortunes indangered, they begin to strengthen their party, and

turne their Invective Counsells to advise his Majesty, that their petitions are scandalous, their Declarations and behaviour rebellious; and so labour to force by the terror of an Army, that which pollicy and threats could not accomplish. And so like *Guido, Godfrey*, and their followers, begin to act the part of their lawlesse rage, by seeking utterly to destroy all those that withstood their wicked enterprises, and by Projects and many heavy taxes oppressing, and in a tyranicall manner keeping this Kingdome in slavish subjection, intending hereby to cut off and overthrow two flourishing Kingdomes at once.

Temp. H 3.

And although at this instant there were no present Levies of Armes by the malignant party, openly intended against *England*, yet it plainly appeared that by endeavouring to ingage the two nations in blood, the designe against *England* was as great (if not greater) then that against *Scotland*.

I shall not crush out my notes in this behalfe, in any new division; and the portion I shall allowe, will not be large, therefore in the next place I shall onely give a touch, that when things were brought to this head, the Iesuits and Papists (which are alwayes thirsty after bloud) now plot and contrive the forwarding of those warres, as the onely meanes to promote and advance the Catholike cause. And perceiving that the want of money, was likely to prove a great hinderance to that designe, they begin to make great proffers, hereby they onely will be deemed his Majesties best subjects, and as if the taxes under which the Protestants groaned were to light a burthen for them, they will lay great taxes upon themselves, a servant that hath not above 40. shilings *Per annum*, must give five towards the promotion of this cause.

And that the neere vnion and correspondency betweene the Prelats, and them, might be duly observed, the Clergie goe hand in hand with them, in this large contribution: and last of all, to shew they wanted not affection to the Catholike cause they grant large subsidies in their Synod under the name and Collour of an Ayde. And no doubt such was their zeale (or rather their malice) that to have effected this worke they would have Imitated their predecessors in the time of *Hen.* 2. which sould their Chalices to advance their owne ends.

These persons being now in the hight of their glory, might justly have most cause to question their strength. Christall that faicely glistereth doth quickly breake. And as the assent of vsurped royalty is slippery: so the top is shaking and the fall great.

All the strength and pollicy of this malignant party, not being able to defend them from suddaine and most eminent danger, two Parliaments

ments are forthwith ſummoned, one in *England*, and another in *Scotland*, his Majeſtie being graciouſly pleaſed to make ſweetneſſe and Clemency the enterance to ſettle theſe diſtempered ſtates. Now the currant began to run ſmooth and cleere, all rough waves ſeeme to be paſt, the Sunne ſhines bright and cleere, the Clowds are a little diſperced, and the ſtrength of our hopes gave us almoſt full aſſurance of a happy Succeſſe, but when theſe miſchievous Spirits, perceived that the wiſedome and faithfull adviſe of the Parliament in *England*, carryed great Antipathy with their Counſels and endeavours, they prevaile with his Majeſtie to goe into *Scotland*, and grant their demands (thinking it eaſier to contend with one Parliament, then with two) and his Majeſty complying with the Parliament in *Scotland*, gave great aſſurance to our thirſty hopes, that his Majeſtie would not be leſſe gracious to his Subjects in *England*.

At his returne, he is received with great acclamations of joy, many profeſſions of a true deſire, & promiſes really to performe the like work in *England*, are made unto us and the Parliament, begins to move in its proper Orbe.

But heere me thinks my diſcourſe wants one of the three Demenſions. It is wide, and broad enough, but it wants depth, to ſhew the ſuddaine revolution & change of theſe things. And indeed it might ſeem very ſtrange, and a thing beyond example, if we ſhould not conſider the reaſon, and occaſion of ſummoning theſe Parliaments, and the rather, if we conſider with what wiſdome, mildneſſe, temper, and Iudgement they have proceeded.

But experience teacheth us, that great actions are ſeldome effected without much paines, and great dificulty; eſpecially, when they meet with ſtrong and apparent oppoſition, and as theſe Parliaments were not called out of any love or affection thereunto, but meerely by compulſion, and conſtrant, to avoyd a preſent danger, which there was no other meanes to eſcape, ſo now the malignant party perceiving that in caſe this Parliament, ſhould be ſuffered to goe on proſperouſly, their former plots would not only be made fruſtrate, but the knot ſo broken, and their wings ſo clipt, that they ſhould never be able to put in practiſe any notorious acts ſutable to their deſires.

Now they begin to muſter up their forces a new, and endeavour not onely to deſtroy ſome members of either houſe, but the very eſſence and being, not onely of this Parliament, but of all Parliaments hereafter.

Here me thinkes, this skeyne in my hand is ſo twiſted with the diſparity betweene the effects of theſe two Parliaments of *England*, and *Scotland*, that I cannot without intangling winde it upon a proper bottome.

The Parliament in *England*, hath beene ever held the Soveraigne

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cure to heale all diſtempers of the Kingdome, and the ſureſt and ſafeſt Counſell for the Kings of this Land to follow, being *Magna Concilium Regis*, eſpecially in caſe of Warre, which was the reaſon that *Edw.* 3. being much incouraged to goe with the King of *France* to the holy warres, and being adviſed thereunto by his Councell, refuſed to goe without taking aduiſe of his Parliament, and cauſed a Parliament to be ſummoned for that very purpoſe? By which Councels of Parliament many great breaches & ruptures, have bin made up, and great diſtempers & diſtractions ſettled in a very ſhort time, but ſuch hath bin the un-heard of oppoſition, that hath beene made againſt this Parliament, thorough the continuall multiplicity of new buſineſſes, occaſoned by the new plots and deviſes framed againſt them, by the Malignant party, that without eminent danger to the whole ſtate and kingdome, they have not had time to puniſh offenders; nor meanes (his Majeſtie being ſeduced by their wicked Counſels,) to redreſſe grievances, having ſufficient Worke to vnder prop and uphold the tottering fabricke of this diſtempered kingdome, ſo that herein ſtands the diſparity betweene the affaires in *Scotland* and *England*, that the Parliament there by reaſon of his Majeſties grace and goodnes, in complying with them, did effect that in three moneths, which the Parliament in *England* hath not beene ſo happy to accompliſh in 20. Moneths.

Rot. Parliament 6. E. 3

Me thinks, my notes in this place, have the vertue of a Looking-glaſſe to ſhew and repreſent that which is before, as well as that which is behind. In that behalfe this ſhort diſcourſe being fully look't upon, as in a Glaſſe, may ſhew the apparity of the cauſes, Agents, and effects of the troubles, both of *England* and *Scotland* to be the ſame, onely ſome few particuler perſons may be changed, or removed. I ſhall trouble you but with one example, we may remember that the principall actor (of the Clergie) in the plotting and contriving of theſe troubles in their birth; was the Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*, but (according to the Prophetical ſpeech of King *Iames*, he brought up a bird to picke out his owne Eyes) the Archbiſhop of *Yorke*, hath now gotten the ſtaffe out of his hands, and acts his part more to the life then ever he had beene able to have done himſelfe. Now alſo great proffers are made by theſe Clergie, and the Papiſts towards the advancing of a Civill warre in *England*, And although this that I have ſpoken be ſufficient for my preſent purpoſe, yet Me thinks I heare *Tilbury* ſpeake. It cannot fall within the compaſſe of mans knowledge to utter the malicious intents of theſe perſons, but as *Pliny* ſheweth, that all *Homers Iliades* were written in a Nut-ſhell, the whole matter of my diſcourſe being perused, it may be you ſhall iudge all ſhell, and no Kernell, therefore I will not further inlarge my ſelfe for my mettall is molten, and my bellowes by often blowing, have let out all their breath.

FINIS.